Remarks

Entry of the amendment entry is respectfully requested. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim Status

Claims 1 and 45-70 are pending. Claims 49, 59, and 66 were allowed.

Claims 1, 45-46, 50-52, 56, 61-63, and 67-70 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Hoshino (US 2002/46171).

Claims 47-48, 53-55, 57-58, 60, and 64-65 were indicated allowable if rewritten in an independent form.

The Amendments

Applicants previously filed first and second Appeal Briefs. Following each Brief filing, prosecution was reopened by the Office. Applicants respectfully traverse the newest claim rejections. Nevertheless, claims have been amended to advance prosecution and (hopefully) bring closure. Again, Applicants respectfully that this application is in condition for allowance.

The Claim Rejections

The Specification discusses embodiments relating to arrangements and methods of using facial recognition software to enable service personnel to quickly access secured interior areas of an ATM (e.g., page 73, lines 1-10) and/or a currency cassette (e.g., page 76, lines 8-12).

The rejections rely on Hoshino at paragraphs [0061] to [0064], which relate to a cash withdrawal from an ATM. Hoshino does not anticipate the claims. At best, a customer in Hoshino may be able to obtain cash that was previously stored in the interior of an ATM, but the

customer cannot access the interior of the ATM. Rather, the customer receives cash only after it was dispensed by the ATM. The Office appears to imply that in Hoshino the customer can access the interior of the ATM to receive cash before the cash is moved from its interior storage and then dispensed. However, Hoshino provides no such teaching.

Hoshino does not teach the ability to grant physical access to an access-restricted interior of an automated banking machine component. Nor does Hoshino teach (e.g., claim 69) the ability to "restrict access to the interior of an ATM currency container", teach a database that includes "data representative of facial images corresponding to respective individuals authorized to access the interior of the ATM currency container", and teach the ability to "grant access to the interior of the ATM currency container". Where does Hoshino teach (e.g., claim 70) granting entry to an interior area having currency stored therein? Again, Hoshino does not anticipate the claims.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. The undersigned is willing to discuss any aspect of the Application by phone.

Respectfully submitted,

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